



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3065/Telephone 547-7000

Charles K. Djou

Councilmember, District IV

Phone: (808) 547-7004 / Facsimile: (808) 523-4220

Email cdjou@honolulu.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2005

For More Information, Please Contact:

Councilmember Charles K. Djou

Phone: (808) 478-0006

COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: REJECT PAY RAISES FOR CITY OFFICIALS

Today, a day after seven councilmembers sponsored a bill to increase the General Excise Tax by 12.5%, Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) filed a resolution calling for the rejection of pay raises for elected and appointed officials in City government.

“With the City raising taxes at every turn despite a tight budget, Honolulu simply cannot afford pay raises for either the bureaucracy or officials. Honolulu residents are already facing steep increases for real property taxes, a 50% increase in the vehicle tax, and now a proposed 12.5% increase in the excise tax. The last thing we should be doing is increasing the salaries for elected officials while we foist massive tax increases on the people,” stated Councilmember Djou.

Three-fourths of the City Council must vote to reject the pay increase recommended by the Salary Commission to stop the pay raises for elected and appointed officials. The current proposal seeks to increase salaries of elected and appointed officials by 4%. The Mayor’s salary will rise to \$116,688 from \$112,200 and Councilmember salaries will rise to \$45,084 from \$43,350. Bill 40 (2005), which proposes the 12.5% increase in the excise tax, would cost every family approximately \$450 or more per year.

#